

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Hidekazu SEKIZAWA

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Appl. No.: 09/955,291

Filing Date: September 19, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, please substitute for original claim 16 the following rewritten version of the same claim, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

16. (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the recognition signal modifying section has further a color modifying section which transforms either one of the region recognition signal or the attribute information into the printing control signal and modifies the color of the image information in compliance with the printing control signal.

Please add the following new claims.

21. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 15, characterized in that the recognition signal modifying section has further a color modifying section which transforms either one of the region recognition signal or the attribute information into the printing control signal and modifies the color of the image information in compliance with the printing control signal.

22. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a parameter setting section which sets parameters for carrying out a plurality of picture quality control on the printing control signal; and

a processing section which processes a plurality of image information in compliance with the parameters for picture quality control which the setting section established.

23. (New) The image processing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a color modification changing section which corrects at least one of the color characteristics and differential color characteristics of a plurality of image forming apparatus in compliance with the printing control signal.

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 28, 2001

By



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Claims:**

16. (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to [one of claims] claim 1 [and 15], characterized in that the recognition signal modifying section has further a color modifying section which transforms either one of the region recognition signal or the attribute information into the printing control signal and modifies the color of the image information in compliance with the printing control signal.

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